

BRIEFING PAPER FOR THE PRESIDENT'S PRESS CONFERENCE

November 20, 1962

SUBJECT: Non-Invasion Pledge on Cuba *ASSURANCE*

QUESTION: Will a "non-invasion" pledge by the U.S. require any quid pro quo from Castro?

ANSWER : Yes. Castro himself will have to first approve-- and permit -- arrangements which will adequately confirm that all Soviet offensive weapons have been removed from Cuba. He will also have to approve -- and permit -- long-term safeguards against the reintroduction of such weapons.

QUESTION: Will he also have to provide the United States with a guarantee that he will not attempt to pursue a policy of subversion in the hemisphere?

ANSWER : No. Reciprocal guarantees of this sort have little, if any, real meaning. But let me make clear that our attitude towards Cuba, and what political and economic actions against Castro we might take, depends on whether or not ~~Cuba~~ displays a desire to live in peace with its neighbors.

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